

**Testimony Concerning House Bill 5361
Real Estate Committee, February 10, 2015
Sarah Marino**

I would like to thank the Real Estate Committee for the opportunity to express my support of House Bill 5361, Act of Use of Breed of Dogs as an Underwriting Factor for Homeowners & Tenants Policies.

My husband and I have ten years of experience owning two "pit bull type" rescue dogs. We have provided a loving environment for our pets, along with educating ourselves through research and brining our dogs to training. I feel it is unfair to punish homeowners and renters by denying insurance coverage by stereo-typing animals due to their breed, from what they read or hear in the media. There are numerous organizations along with "bully breed" owners that can testify to how inaccurate the stereotype is. There is an overwhelming amount of research to disprove that a specific breed of dog is dangerous. We have personally learned a great deal through the Animal Farm Foundation (to name one of the numerous organizations) specifically about "pitbull breed" and highly suggest insurance companies to build a rapport with such organizations.

PLEASE VOTE FOR THIS BILL TO PASS!

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to testify and I do hope you will strongly support this important piece of legislation.

I appreciate your consideration.

Sincerley,

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